# PUBLIC NOTICE

WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU ANNOUNCES THAT STANDARD POWER ACCESS POINTS IN THE 6 GHZ BAND CAN NOW BE REGISTERED

ET Docket No. 18-295

By this Public Notice, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) announces that the Commission's Universal Licensing System (ULS) will now accept applications for Standard Power Access Points (SPAPs) in portions of the 6 GHz band. As discussed below, certain licensees in the 6 GHz band must register their SPAP in ULS before commencing operations to enable the automated frequency coordination (AFC) systems to account for these operations when providing channel information to 6 GHz unlicensed standard power-devices.

On April 23, 2020, the Commission adopted a Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (6 GHz Report and Order) that made 1200 megahertz of spectrum available for unlicensed use in the 6 GHz band (5.925 – 7.125 GHz)[1]. Recognizing that a variety of incumbent licensees operate in the band, the 6 GHz Report and Order adopted rules for two different types of unlicensed operations—low-power indoor operations and standard-power operations—to tailor the unlicensed use to the existing incumbent operations in the band[2]. The 6 GHz Report and Order authorized unlicensed standard-power operations, using an AFC system for the U-NII-5 (5.925–6.425 GHz) and U-NII-7 (6.525–6.875 GHz) sub-bands, which support a large number of point-to-point microwave links[3].

AFC systems identify the frequencies on which unlicensed standard-power devices can operate without causing harmful interference to licensed microwave receivers, and then make those frequencies available for use for unlicensed standard-power operations[4]. Unlicensed access to the U-NII-5 and U-NII-7 sub-bands for standard-power operations is only permitted on frequencies and locations determined by an AFC system based on the exclusion zones established under the rules[5]. To calculate and establish the exclusion zones for standard power operations, an AFC system relies on ULS for fixed microwave link data[6]. ULS is the official licensing database for microwave links in the U-NII-5 and U-NII-7 sub-bands and contains extensive technical data for site-

[1] Unlicensed Use of the 6 GHz Band, ET Docket No. 18-295, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 35 FCC Rcd 3852 (2020) (6 GHz Report and Order).

[2] Id. at 3856, para. 11

[3] Id. at 3854, paras. 3, 18. All four of the sub-bands, U-NII-5 (5.925–6.425 GHz), U-NII-6 (6.425–6.525 GHz), U-NII-7 (6.525–6.875 GHz), and U-NII-8 (6.875–7.125 GHz), can be utilized for unlicensed low power indoor operations. Id. at 3854, para. 18.

[4] Id.at 3857, para. 12

[5] Id.at 3862, para. 22

[6] Id.at 3864, para. 30

based licenses including transmitter and receiver locations, frequencies, bandwidths, polarizations, transmitter EIRP, antenna height, and the make and model of the antenna and equipment used. Thus, ULS contains the information necessary for AFC systems to protect fixed service links[7].

Because the AFC system must incorporate the location of the SPAP to protect them from harmful interference, to register SPAPs they must supply operational details (transmitter and receiver location, antenna height, antenna make and model, etc.) in ULS prior to transmission so that an AFC system could accurately determine available channels for unlicensed standard-power operations[8]. When the 6 GHz Report and Order was released, ULS did not support the capability to register SPAP. By this Public Notice, WTB announces that SPAPs now may be registered in ULS[9].

To register a SPAP on the ULS, Prior Coordinate using AFC or rule 101.103 then file Form 601. Note that if the SPAN's frequency stability is alphabetic it will have to be converted to numeric for the Form 601.

Questions regarding the application filings and SPAP registration procedures outlined in this public notice should be directed to the ULS Hotline at 1-877-480-3201.

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[7] Id

[8] Id. at 3865, para. 32

[9] Id.at 3865, para. 32 & n.85